



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP)

www.idem.IN.gov

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Description:

- A Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) is an environmentally beneficial project that a Respondent agrees to undertake as part of an enforcement action settlement.
- A SEP must improve, restore, protect, or reduce risks to the public and/or the environment beyond that achieved by compliance with applicable laws, rules, and/or permits.
- SEPs provide a significant benefit by providing Respondents an opportunity to fund environmentally beneficial projects.
- Qualified SEPs fall into eight (8) categories:
 - Pollution Prevention
 - Pollution Reduction/Pollution Control
 - Environmental Conservation, Protection and Restoration
 - Environmental Audits
 - Comprehensive Environmental Training
 - Community Involvement
 - Public Awareness
 - Public Health

Environmental Impacts:

- Conducting a SEP provides an efficient way to achieve real environmental progress in the wake of an environmental violation.
- A SEP must describe and quantify the environmental benefits in order to be approved.

IDEM's Role:

- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- The mission of the Office of Enforcement is to respond to violations in a timely, consistent manner, achieve compliance, deter future violations and misconduct in others, and preserve a level playing field for those that abide by laws.
- IDEM's Office of Enforcement is able to incorporate a SEP into the settlement agreement with a Respondent.
- It is the policy of IDEM to encourage the consideration, development, and implementation of SEPs to further the States' goals of protecting and enhancing human health and the environment.

SEP Idea Library:

- IDEM has created a SEP Idea Library to provide companies with ideas for potential SEPs for their consideration during negotiation of an enforcement action.

- The Library lists categorical ideas of projects that are generally approved for SEPs.
- The Library can be found at: http://www.in.gov/idem/files/sep_library.doc

SEP Shop:

- The SEP Shop is an inventory of pre-evaluated and conceptually approved projects available for inclusion in the Respondent's settlement with IDEM.
- The SEP Shop projects can be proposed to partner with IDEM, a city, or other government entity that will oversee the implementation of the project should it be adopted as part of a settlement.
- Projects may be proposed by submitting a "SEP Shop Project" Application.
- The SEP review committee will evaluate projects submitted for inclusion in the SEP Shop. A list of the projects in the SEP Shop will be maintained and made available by the Office of Enforcement.
- Proposed projects are approved based on the various criteria listed in the SEP Policy; for instance, one criteria requires that the public receive a greater benefit than the Respondent from the implementation of the proposed project.

Citizen's Role:

- Citizen involvement has been and will continue to be a vital component of IDEM's overall plan to protect Indiana's environment and the health of Hoosiers.
- Citizens are encouraged to contact IDEM's Office of Enforcement with any questions or concerns about SEPs.

More Information:

- For more information on SEPs, visit the Web sites listed below.

SEP Policy: http://www.in.gov/idem/files/nrpd_enf_003r1.pdf

SEP Application: http://www.in.gov/idem/files/nrpd_enf_003r1_application.doc

SEP Library: http://www.in.gov/idem/files/sep_library.doc

SEP Shop: <http://www.in.gov/idem/5664.htm>

SEP Shop Request:

http://www.in.gov/surveytool/public/survey.php?name=SEP_Shop_Deposit_Request

- For questions and concerns, feel free to call IDEM's Office of Enforcement at (317) 232-8456.